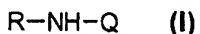


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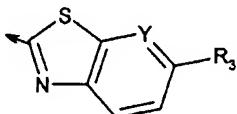
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

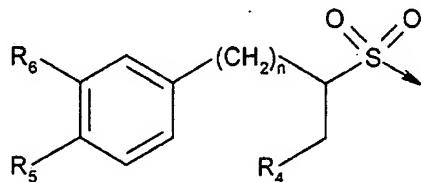
1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula



wherein



(i) Q is a radical in which R<sub>3</sub> is; Y is nitrogen; and  
R is a radical of the formula



wherein

R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>2-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>5-7</sub>heterocycloalkyl;

R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano, R<sub>7</sub>, -C(O)R<sub>7</sub> or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>R<sub>7</sub> wherein  
R<sub>7</sub> is -(CR<sub>8</sub>R<sub>9</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-W-R<sub>10</sub> in which

R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

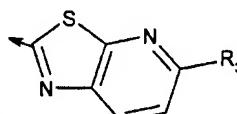
W is a bond,

R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl;

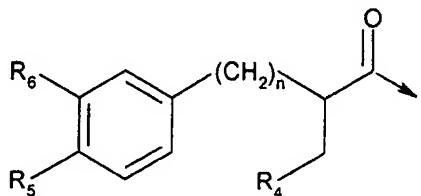
m is zero or an integer from 1 to 5; and

n is zero or an integer of 1 or 2;

or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or



(ii) Q is a radical in which R<sub>3</sub> is alkoxy; and  
R is a radical of the formula



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wherein

R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>2-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>5-7</sub>heterocycloalkyl;

$R_5$  and  $R_6$  are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano,  $R_7$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{O})R_7$  or  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2R_7$  wherein  $R_7$  is  $-(\text{CR}_8\text{R}_9)_m-\text{W}-\text{R}_{10}$  in which

R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

W is a bond;

$R_{10}$  is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl;

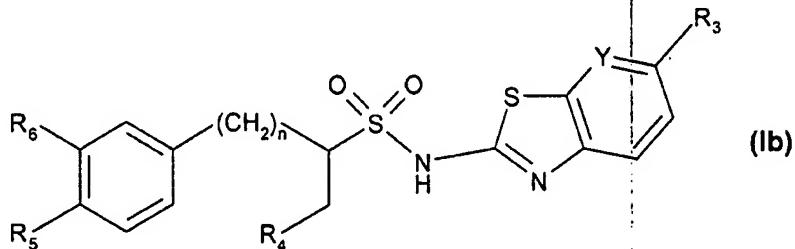
m is zero or an integer from 1 to 5; and

**n** is zero or an integer of 1 or 2;

or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or  
~~or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

2 – 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1 of the formula



wherein

$R_3$  is alkoxy;

R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>2-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>5-7</sub>heterocycloalkyl;

$R_5$  and  $R_6$  are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano,  $R_7$ ,  $-C(O)R_7$  or  $-S(O)_2R_7$  wherein

$R_7$  is  $-(CR_8R_9)_m-W-R_{10}$  in which

R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are, independently, hydrogen or lower alkyl;

W is a bond;

$R_{10}$  is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl;

m is zero or an integer from 1 to 5;

Y is nitrogen;

n is zero or an integer of 1 or 2;

or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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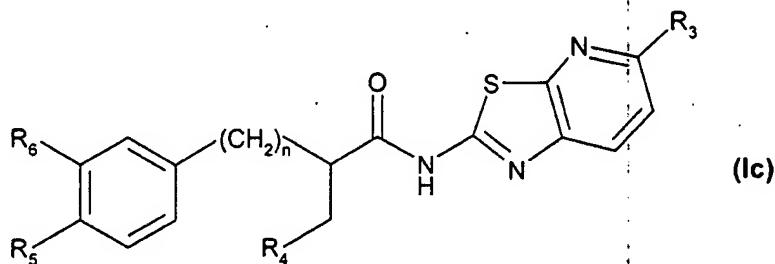
5. (Original) A compound according to Claim 4, wherein

$R_4$  is cyclopentyl;

$n$  is zero;

or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1 of the formula



wherein

$R_3$  is alkoxy;

$R_4$  is  $C_{2-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_{5-7}$ heterocycloalkyl;

$R_5$  and  $R_6$  are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano,  $R_7$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{O})R_7$  or  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2R_7$  wherein

$R_7$  is  $-(\text{CR}_8\text{R}_9)_m\text{-W-R}_{10}$  in which

$R_8$  and  $R_9$  are, independently, hydrogen or lower alkyl;

$W$  is a bond;

$R_{10}$  is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl;

$m$  is zero or an integer from 1 to 5;

$n$  is zero or an integer of 1 or 2;

or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. (Original) A compound according to Claim 6, wherein

$R_4$  is cyclopentyl;

$n$  is zero;

or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8 – 11. (Cancelled)

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12. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A method for the activation of glucokinase activity in mammals which method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A method for the prevention and/or treatment of conditions associated with glucokinase activity in mammals which method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, which method comprises administering said compound, or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of insulin, insulin derived mimetic; insulin secretagogue; insulinotropic sulfonylurea receptor ligand; PPAR ligand; insulin sensitizer; biguanide; alpha-glucose inhibitors; GLP-1, GLP-1 analog or mimetic; DPPIV inhibitor; HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor; squaline synthase inhibitor; FXR or LXR ligand; cholestyramine; fibrates; nicotinic acid; or aspirin.

15. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of impaired glucose tolerance, Type 2 diabetes and obesity which method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claims 1, or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

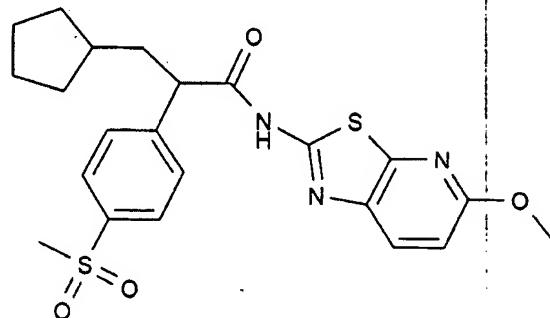
17. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically effective amount of insulin, insulin derived mimetic; insulin secretagogue; insulinotropic sulfonylurea receptor ligand; PPAR ligand; insulin sensitizer; biguanide; alpha-glucose inhibitors; GLP-1, GLP-1 analog or mimetic; DPPIV inhibitor;

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HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor; squaline synthase inhibitor; FXR or LXR ligand; cholestyramine; fibrates; nicotinic acid; or aspirin.

18 – 24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 6, wherein the compound is:



or an optical isomer thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.